STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONER MICHAEL J. COPPS

September 10, 2003

RE: Annual Report on the Commercial Satellite Industry.

First, I'd like to thank the International Bureau for their presentation. I appreciate the effort, and found the information useful.

I believe in the satellite industry. I think that it has incredible things to offer, for innovative consumer services, business services, international communications, national security, and rural America. I also understand that the satellite business is different from the terrestrial wireless industry. Its time lines are different, challenges on funding are different, and the technology is far different. But sometimes big, long, more difficult investments yield immense value in the long run.

But if FCC tries the shoe-horn the satellite industry into a one-size-fits-all regulatory ideology the industry and consumers will suffer. I hope that the FCC will give satellite innovators the regulatory certainty, time, and critically, adequate spectrum to make their hard work pay off for all of us.